

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-21 are pending in the instant application. Claims 1-4, 8-11 and 15 have been amended. New claims 22-30 have been added. The Applicant requests reconsideration of the claims in view of the following amendments reflected in the listing of claims.

Listing of claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for ~~selecting at least one signal path~~processing signals in a communication system, the method comprising:

determining a signal quality metric for ~~each of~~ a plurality of signal paths,
wherein one or more of said plurality of signal paths is selected based on stored information for preceding frames;

assigning a threshold signal quality metric for the plurality of signal paths;
and

discarding a signal path from the plurality of signal paths, if the determined signal quality metric for the signal path does not satisfy the threshold signal quality metric.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, ~~further~~ comprising assigning a different threshold signal quality metric for each of the plurality of signal paths.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, ~~further~~ comprising assigning a fixed threshold signal quality metric for each of the plurality of signal paths.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, ~~further~~ comprising dynamically changing the threshold signal quality metric for each of the plurality of signal paths.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the signal quality metric comprises at least one of a power level characteristic, a packet error rate characteristic, a bit error rate characteristic, a propagation channel characteristic, and an interference level characteristic.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the signal paths comprises an antenna.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein each of the plurality of signal paths comprises at least one of a receive signal path and a transmit signal path.

8. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable storage having stored thereon, a computer program having at least one code section for ~~selecting at least one signal path~~ processing signals in a communication system, the at least

one code section being executable by a machine for causing the machine to perform steps comprising:

determining a signal quality metric for ~~each~~ of a plurality of signal paths, wherein one or more of said plurality of signal paths is selected based on stored information for preceding frames;

assigning a threshold signal quality metric for the plurality of signal paths;
and

discarding a signal path from the plurality of signal paths, if the determined signal quality metric for the signal path does not satisfy the threshold signal quality metric.

9. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable storage according to claim 8, further comprising code for assigning a different threshold signal quality metric for each of the plurality of signal paths.

10. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable storage according to claim 8, further comprising code for assigning a fixed threshold signal quality metric for each of the plurality of signal paths.

11. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable storage according to claim 8, further comprising code for dynamically changing the threshold signal quality metric for each of the plurality of signal paths.

12. (Original) The machine-readable storage according to claim 8, wherein the signal quality metric comprises at least one of a power level

characteristic, a packet error rate characteristic, a bit error rate characteristic, a propagation channel characteristic, and an interference level characteristic.

13. (Original) The machine-readable storage according to claim 8, wherein at least one of the signal paths comprises an antenna.

14. (Original) The machine-readable storage according to claim 8, wherein each of the plurality of signal paths comprises at least one of a receive signal path and a transmit signal path.

15. (Currently Amended) A system for ~~selecting at least one signal path~~processing signals in a communication system, the system comprising:

at least one processor that determines a signal quality metric for ~~each of a plurality of signal paths~~, wherein one or more of said plurality of signal paths is selected based on stored information for preceding frames;

the at least one processor assigns a threshold signal quality metric for the plurality of signal paths; and

the at least one processor discards a signal path from the plurality of signal paths, if the determined signal quality metric for the signal path does not satisfy the threshold signal quality metric.

16. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein the at least one processor assigns a different threshold signal quality metric for each of the plurality of signal paths.

17. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein the at least one processor assigns a fixed threshold signal quality metric for each of the plurality of signal paths.

18. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein the at least one processor dynamically changes the threshold signal quality metric for each of the plurality of signal paths.

19. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein the signal quality metric comprises at least one of a power level characteristic, a packet error rate characteristic, a bit error rate characteristic, a propagation channel characteristic, and an interference level characteristic.

20. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein at least one of the signal paths comprises an antenna.

21. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein each of the plurality of signal paths comprises at least one of a receive signal path and a transmit signal path.

22. (New) The method according to claim 1, comprising selecting a first of said plurality of signal paths based on said previously stored information for preceding frames.

23. (New) The method according to claim 1, comprising selecting one or more of said plurality of signal paths based on a history of previously selected signal paths.

24. (New) The method according to claim 1, comprising controlling a gain of a selected one of said plurality of signal paths based on a power coupling factor between said selected one of said plurality of signal paths and a signal path adjacent to said selected one of said plurality of signal path.

25. (New) The machine-readable storage according to claim 8, comprising code for selecting a first of said plurality of signal paths based on said previously stored information for preceding frames.

26. (New) The machine-readable storage according to claim 8, comprising code for selecting one or more of said plurality of signal paths based on a history of previously selected signal paths.

27. (New) The machine-readable storage according to claim 8, comprising code for controlling a gain of a selected one of said plurality of signal paths based on a power coupling factor between said selected one of said plurality of signal paths and a signal path adjacent to said selected one of said plurality of signal path.

28. (New) The system according to claim 15, wherein the at least one processor selects a first of said plurality of signal paths based on said previously stored information for preceding frames.

29. (New) The system according to claim 15, wherein the at least one processor selects one or more of said plurality of signal paths based on a history of previously selected signal paths.

30. (New) The system according to claim 15, wherein the at least one processor controls a gain of a selected one of said plurality of signal paths based on a power coupling factor between said selected one of said plurality of signal paths and a signal path adjacent to said selected one of said plurality of signal path.